

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

I. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-58 remain in this application. Claims 1-58 have been rejected. Claims 1-4, 8-11, 14-17, 20-22, 29-32, 36-39, 42-44, 48-50, and 57-58 have been amended. It should be noted that Applicant has elected to amend said Claims solely for the purpose of expediting the patent application process in a manner consistent with the PTO's Patent Business Goals, 65 Fed. Reg. 54603 (9/8/00). In making this amendment, Applicant has not and does not in any way narrow the scope of protection to which Applicant considers the invention herein to be entitled and does not concede, in any way, that the subject matter of such Claims was in fact taught or disclosed by the cited prior art. Rather, Applicant reserves Applicant's right to pursue such protection at a later point in time and merely seeks to pursue protection for the subject matter presented in this submission.

II. CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected Claims 20-24, 48-52 and 57-58 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hooper et al. (US 5,442,390). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 20 has been amended to clarify the invention and appears as follows:

20. A process for a digital video recorder, comprising the steps of:
storing a plurality of multimedia programs in digital form on a
storage device;
displaying a list of pre-recorded multimedia programs stored on
said storage device to a user;

wherein the user selects multimedia programs from said list;
simultaneously playing back at least one of said selected
multimedia programs and a multimedia program whose storage is in
progress to at least one display device; and
wherein said playing back step allows playback rate and direction
of each multimedia program to be controlled individually and
simultaneously to perform variable rate fast forward and rewind, frame
step, pause, and play functions.

In particular, Hooper does not teach or disclose a system that simultaneously
plays back at least one of said selected multimedia programs and a multimedia program
whose storage is in progress to at least one display device as claimed in Claim 20.
Hooper does not contemplate such a system. The Office Action points to col. 8, lines 13-
22 in Hooper as disclosing such a feature. However, Hooper does not disclose what the
Office Action states. Col. 8, lines 13-22 state:

“In step 430, after the customer has been identified, the customer selects a
video for viewing. The video is selected from a menu of available titles. The
menu of available titles corresponds to the videos stored in the video juke box 41.
The menu is displayed on the viewing device 12 and videos are selected with a
remote controller. Alternatively, the menus are presented to the customer as voice
messages, and the customer makes a selection by pushing the buttons on the
telephone.”

Hooper teaches away from the system as claimed in Claim 20 by teaching that a
user can select a video stored in a video juke box. Hooper does not contemplate that his

video on demand system can simultaneously play back at least one of said selected multimedia programs and a multimedia program **whose storage is in progress** to at least one display device as claimed in Claim 20. Hooper does not contemplate that a multimedia program whose storage is in progress can be played. Hooper further does not contemplate that a selected multimedia program and a multimedia program whose storage is in progress can be simultaneously be played back.

Therefore, Hooper does not teach or disclose the invention as claimed.

Claim 20 is in allowable condition. Claim 48 is similarly allowable. Claims 21-24, 57, and 49-528 are dependent upon independent Claims 20 and 48, respectively. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

III. CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected Claims 8-11, 13-17, 19, 36-39, 41-45 and 47 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Logan et al. (Re: 36,801) in view of Hooper et al (US 5,442,390). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 8 has been amended to clarify the invention and appears as follows:

8. A process for a digital video recorder, comprising the steps of:
receiving a plurality of television broadcast signals;
storing each television broadcast signal in a digital form on a
storage device;
wherein each output device of a plurality of output devices in said
digital video recorder extracts a specific digital broadcast signal from said
storage device;

wherein at least two output devices simultaneously extract different digital broadcast signals;

converting each specific digital broadcast signal into a display output signal;

sending display output signals to at least one display device; and

wherein said converting step allows playback rate and direction of each display output signal to be controlled individually and simultaneously to perform variable rate fast forward and rewind, frame step, pause, and play functions.

In particular, Hooper does not teach or disclose a system wherein each output device of a plurality of output devices in said digital video recorder extracts a specific digital broadcast signal from said storage device as claimed in Claim 8.

The Office Action states that:

“Hooper et al teaches a video on demand (Fig. 1) having a plurality of output devices (customer premises equipment (CPE) 10 of Fig. 1, col. 3, lines 4-12) ...”

However, Hooper's CPE's are located over a large geographical area (col. 3, lines 5-7). Hooper does not contemplate a plurality of output devices in said digital video recorder as claimed in Claim 8.

Therefore, Hooper does not teach or disclose the invention as claimed.

Claim 8 is in allowable condition. Claims 14, 36, and 42 are allowable in the same manner. Claims 9-11, 13, and 15-17, 19, and 37-39, 41, and 43-45, 47 are dependent upon independent Claims 8, 14, 36, and 42, respectively. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

IV. CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected Claims 25 and 53 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hooper et al in view of Fujita et al ('619 B1). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The rejection under 35 USC §103(a) is deemed moot in view of Applicant's comments regarding Claims 20 and 48, above. Claims 25 and 53 are dependent upon independent Claims 20 and 48, respectively. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 USC §103(a).

V. CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected Claims 12, 18, 40 and 46 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan et al in view of Hooper et al. as applied to claims 8, 14, 36 and 42, and further in view of Fujita et al. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The rejection under 35 USC §103(a) is deemed moot in view of Applicant's comments regarding Claims 8, 14, 36, and 42, above. Claims 12 and 18 and 40 and 46 are dependent upon independent Claims 8, 14, 36, and 42, respectively. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 USC §103(a).

VI. CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected Claims 1-4, 6-7, 26-32, 34-35 and 54-56 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan et al. (Re: 36,801) in view of Hooper et al and further in view of Kobayashi et al ('254). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the invention and appears as follows:

1. A process for a digital video recorder, comprising the steps of:
 - wherein each tuner of a plurality of input signal tuners in said digital video recorder accepts analog and/or digital television broadcast signals;
 - wherein each of said tuners is individually tuned to a specific broadcast signal;
 - converting analog television broadcast signals into a digital signal;
 - separating a digital signal or digital television broadcast signal into its video and audio components;
 - storing said video and audio components on a storage device;
 - wherein each output device of a plurality of output devices in said digital video recorder extracts a specific video and audio component from said storage device;
 - decoding each specific video and audio component into a display output signal;
 - sending display output signals to at least one display device; and
 - wherein said decoding step allows playback rate and direction of each display output signal to be controlled individually and simultaneously to perform variable rate fast forward and rewind, frame step, pause, and play functions.

As discussed above with respect to Claims 8, 14, 36, and 42, Hooper does not teach or disclose a system wherein each output device of a plurality of output devices in said digital video recorder extracts a specific video and audio component from said storage device as claimed in Claim 1. Hooper does not contemplate such a system.

Therefore, Logan et al. in view of Hooper and further in view of Kobayashi does not teach or disclose the invention as claimed.

Claim 1 is in allowable condition. Claim 29 is allowable in the same manner. Claims 2-4, 6-7, and 26-28, and 30-32, 34-35, and 54-56 are dependent upon independent Claims 1, 20, 29, and 48 respectively. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

VII. CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected Claims 5 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan et al. (Re: 36,801) in view of Hooper et al and Kobayashi et al as applied to claims 1 and 29, and in further view of Fujita et al ('619 B1). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The rejection under 35 USC §103(a) is deemed moot in view of Applicant's comments regarding Claims 1 and 29, above. Claims 5 and 33 are dependent upon Independent Claims 1 and 29, respectively. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 USC §103(a).

VIII. CONCLUSIONS & MISCELLANEOUS

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

The Applicants believe that all issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed and that allowance of the pending claims is appropriate. Entry of the amendments herein and further examination on the merits are respectfully requested.


The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (408) 414-1080 to discuss any issue that may advance prosecution.

No fee is believed to be due specifically in connection with this Reply. To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee that may be due in connection with this Reply to our Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Dated: August 22, 2005

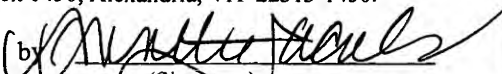

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